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SECURITY INFORMATION

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY

USSR (Kuibyshev and Molotov Oblasts)

DATE DISTR.

3 September 1952

SUBJECT

Aircraft and Explosive Plants in Zhiguli and Melotov

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1. The Soviet Airplane Motor Plant is listed as Number 19 in the Register of Soviet Armament Industries.¹ The plant is located in the Kama River, four kilometers south of the center of the city of Molotov, and has direct streetcar and railroad lines to the city and to the Kirov-Sverdlovsk railroad. In 1951 the plant employed about 8,000 persons. Employees live in a special section of the city of Molotov, in an area north of the factory itself. The factory consists of a plant for working metals such as aluminum and Duralumin, a plant for working steel and iron, a foundry for light metals, a foundry for iron and steel, an assembly plant, and a testing shop with twenty testing sections. The plant is under special OG guard. It consists of a factory group which is fenced by a cement wall and four watch towers. Some stamp-pressing machines in use in the plant were supplied by the United States during the war, some were purchased from Germany, and others have been produced in the plant itself. It is thought that there is rapid deterioration of heavy equipment due to faulty production methods. The factory has movable ramps which are mounted on railroad tracks, and has about 50 trucks for moving equipment.
2. During the war, the Soviet Airplane Motor Plant produced a motor known as the dvukhryadnaya zvezda, 14 tsilindrov, a fourteen-cylinder engine. In 1949 the plant began production of large gasoline turbine motors of a type which was invented by Arkadiy Shvetsov. Shvetsov personally is in charge of the experimental laboratories at the Soviet Airplane Motor Plant, and the laboratories are considered to be among the best research establishments in the Soviet Union.
3. Personnel of this factory are especially well paid and have unusually good living conditions. There evidently is an effort to make these workers live with a minimum of contact with other persons in Molotov, presumably for

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security reasons.

Explosive Factory

4. The Explosive Factory at Zhiguli (53-21N, 49-19E) on the Volga is located on the left side of the river in the midst of the Zhiguli hills, not far from the city of Kuybyshev. Although the plant officially is part of the Soviet film industry, it actually is engaged in production of explosives. No contact has been had with persons who have been employed in the plant, and the types of explosives which it produces are not known. The factory is thought to employ several thousand workers who live in a community on the opposite side of the Volga in the same area with an aircraft plant which is located in the region. The plant has a system of underground shops and is guarded by MGB units.

Zhiguli Airplane Factory

5. The Zhiguli Airplane Factory is located about one and a half kilometers from the explosives plant and is used to assemble heavy bombers. It is thought that the plant is clearly distinguishable from the air because of its great size.

25X1 [REDACTED] Comment: In previous reports this plant has been referred to as the Stalin Aircraft Engine Plant No. 19.

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